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PP RUEHAG RUEHAST RUEHDA RUEHDBU RUEHDF RUEHFL RUEHIK RUEHKW RUEHLA
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SENSITIVE
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SUBJECT: CZECHS AGREE THAT UPCOMING SYRIAN ELECTION WILL
NOT BE DEMOCRATIC

REF: STATE 71071

11. (SBU) Czech MFA Syria desk officer Jaromir Marek told
Poloff on May 25 that the Czech Republic agrees that the
upcoming presidential election in Syria will not be free and
fair. He chuckled at the very idea of using the word
"election" in connection with the event, observing that it is
really a "referendum" in which the only possible "vote" is
"yes." Marek said the Czech Republic has no official position
on the Syrian election, other than the view that Syria is not
a democratic country. Marek said the Czechs focus their
attention on human rights abuses in Syria.
GRABER